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THE
RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF
GAINSBOROUGH



R E P O R T
OF THE MEDICAL
OFFICER of HEALTH

FOR THE
YEAR 1953

Gainsborough Rural District Council.



Chairman :

J. J. ALLEN, J.P., Scotton

Vice-Chairman :

A. SMITHSON, Morton

Clerk of the Council :

EDGAR A. DONSON

R.D.C. Offices, 17, Morley Street, Gainsborough



STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health :

J. C. MACARTNEY

M.D., M.B., Ch.B. (Edin. Univ.), D.P.H. (Edin. & Glasgow)

Sanitary Inspector :

E. DONELLY

A.I.S.E., C.R.S.I., Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Gainsborough Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1953

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
GAINSBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

31st July, 1954.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1953, which contains vital statistics and other information relating to the state of health and the health services of the district.

The population, which now includes non-civilians, has increased by 350 to 12,990. It is worth noticing the low Death Rate and the high Birth Rate. Also the Infantile Mortality Rate (28.8) shows a large fall. The incidence of Infectious Diseases was slight and the majority were measles cases. It is very pleasing that, again, we had no case of Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis nor any other serious condition during the year.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all Councillors for their interest in health matters. My thanks are also due to Mr. Donson and to Mr. Donelly and Mr. Burn (Water Engineer) and their staffs for their helpful collaboration at all times.

Yours obediently,

J. C. MACARTNEY,

M.D.(Edin.), Ch.B., D.P.H.

SECTION A.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the Rural District	78,598 acres
Estimated Population	12,990
Rateable Value on the 31st March, 1953	£43,383
Sum Represented by 1d. Rate	£172

The district is entirely rural in character and the sole industry is agriculture. It surrounds the Urban District of Gainsborough on three sides. The Northern and Southern extremities are seventeen miles apart and the greatest width is eleven miles. Part of the Parishes of Lea and Morton, adjoining Gainsborough town, are semi-residential. There are thirty-seven parishes and the Council consists of thirty-two Councillors.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	119	124	243
Legitimate	110	120	230
Illegitimate	9	4	13
Still Births	1	6	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population			18.7
	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. All causes	63	54	117
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population			9.0
	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. Infants under 1 year ...	4	3	7
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)			28.8
CAUSES OF DEATH.	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
Cancer	6	8	14
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	12	21
Coronary disease, angina	9	6	15
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	7	7	14
Other circulatory disease	7	2	9
Influenza	—	2	2
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Bronchitis	5	1	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	5	7	12
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
All other accidents	4	1	5
Suicide	1	—	1
Total	63	54	117

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Births:				Birth†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1953	119	124	243	18.7
1952	112	92	204	19.53
1951	119	113	232	21.9
1950	120	115	235	19.2
1949	106	93	199	16.3
1948	129	113	242	22.16
1947	107	105	212	20.26

Deaths:				Death†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1953	63	54	117	9.0
1952	79	52	131	9.6
1951	81	59	140	10.1
1950	67	73	140	11.4
1949	67	52	119	9.7
1948	63	56	119	10.8
1947	72	59	131	12.52

Infantile Mortality:

Year	‡Rate
1953	28.8
1952	39.2
1951	38.7
1950	25.5
1949	55.0
1948	28.9
1947	33.0

	†Birth Rate	†Death Rate	‡Infant Mortality
England and Wales	15.5	11.4	26.8
Gainsborough Rural District	18.7	9.0	28.8

† Rates per 1,000 Home Population.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

A. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Health Information.

Enquiries relating to local health services may be made of the Medical Officer of Health, 10/12, Lord Street, Gainsborough. The County Medical Officer is Dr. W. S. H. Campbell, O.B.E., County Offices, Lincoln.

Many various facilities are available under the following headings:—

Maternity Service.

Child Care.

Home Nursing.

Health Visitors.

Home Helps.

Sick Room Requisites, appliances and other equipment.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Mental Health.

Ambulance Service.

Minor Ailment Clinics for School Children.

Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics.

The County Council's clinics function at Gainsborough as follows:—

(a) At Spital Terrace Clinic

Minor Ailments Clinic Daily 9-30 a.m.

School Clinic Tuesdays 2 p.m.

Infant Welfare Centre Thursdays 2 p.m.

Toddlers Clinic 2nd Thursday and 4th Monday
in each month 10 a.m.

Infant Welfare and 2nd, 4th and 5th Thursday in
Ante-Natal Clinic each month 10 a.m.

Dental Clinic, Vaccination
and Immunisation By appointment.

Sunlight Clinic Mondays and Thursdays 10 a.m.

Domestic Help Service Organiser attends Tuesdays and
Thursdays 2 p.m.

(b) At Woods Terrace Clinic

Infant Welfare Centre Mondays 2 p.m.

Toddlers Clinic 2nd Monday and 4th Thursday
10 a.m.

In addition to above, appointments are also made at the John Coupland or other Hospital for school and pre-school children requiring Ophthalmic or Ear, Nose and Throat consultant services.

SECTION C.

WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supplied by the Council is derived from the following sources and during the year was satisfactory both in quality and quantity:—
- (1) Council's own boreholes at Glentham and Caenby, west of the Lincolnshire Wolds.
 - (2) Bulk supply from Lincoln Corporation, the supply being derived from boreholes at Elkesley in Nottinghamshire.
 - (3) Bulk supply from Glanford Brigg Rural District Council for the hamlet of Susworth only (i.e., 35 properties in the Scotter Parish).
 - (4) Bulk supply from Welton Rural District Council, the supply being derived from boreholes at Welton. This supply assists the Cliff Area.
 - (5) Bulk supply from Caistor Rural District Council, the supply being derived from springs in that District. Water is taken only when required and is on a reciprocal basis.
- (ii) Samples for Bacteriological and Chemical examinations were taken periodically and the results were satisfactory.
- (iii) The water has no plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination as no adverse reports were received.

In all cases where water is drawn from wells, water samples are taken, and when found to be unsuitable for drinking purposes statutory notices are served. When property owners are informed that the water is unfit, it often happens that the work is carried out without the service of a statutory notice being necessary.

(v)

HOUSES.

Parish.	Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
Blyborough	61	53
Blyton	305	270
Brampton	26	22
Corringham	144	118
East Ferry	42	37
East Stockwith	100	98
Fenton	87	87
Fillingham	75	66
Gate Burton	31	25
Glentworth	89	84
Grayingham	40	25
Hardwick	Supplied by Lincoln Corporation	
Harpwell	28	23
Heapham	36	34
Hemswell	108	97
Kettlethorpe	78	73
Kexby	114	108
Knaith	56	54
Laughton	78	71

(v)

HOUSES.

Parish.	Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
Lea	196	192
Marton	136	126
Morton	Supplied by Gainsborough U.D.C.	
Newton-on-Trent	80	80
Northorpe	61	56
Pilham	17	14
Scotter	361	328
Scotton	75	73
Springthorpe	46	44
Stow	114	109
Sturton-by-Stow	214	205
Thonock	16	10
Torksey	47	44
Upton	74	66
Walkerith	23	23
Wildsworth	29	28
Willingham	134	123
Willoughton	153	141
	<hr/> 3274	<hr/> 3007

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Blyton, Scotter and Scotton. Since my last report, all connections to houses on line of the new sewers have been completed, and 166 earth closets have been converted to water closets. Grants have been made in respect of these conversions under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Morton Scheme is now in a state of completion and in the course of a month or so, the works will be completed and the necessary house connections made.

Knaith Scheme is also in a state of completion and I have no doubt that house connections will commence immediately.

Lea Scheme. I have been concerned that no commencement has been made on this scheme, but the Ministry have now given sanction for a commencement to be made in the early Spring of 1955.

Schemes for **Gate Burton, Marton, Sturton-by-Stow, Stow** and **Willingham** are being prepared.

REFUSE COLLECTION, SCAVENGING.

This has been carried out satisfactorily during the past year, and refuse tips have been regularly treated for rat infestations.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

(1) Number of houses completed during the year:

(a) by the Council	58
(b) by private enterprise	17

Total	75
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(2)

POST WAR COUNCIL HOUSING. POSITION ON 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

DWELLINGS COMPLETED

Blyton	30	Lea	2
Brampton	2	Marton	16
Corringham	10	Morfen	28
East Ferry	4	Newton-on-Trent	8
East Stockwith	6	Northorpe	8
Fillingham	8	Scotter	22
Glentworth	12	Scotton	8
Grayingham	4	Springthorpe	4
Heapham	4	Stow	8
Hemswell	14	Sturton-by-Stow	26
Knaith	6	Upton	10
Laughton	4	Wildsworth	2
Kexby	14	Willingham	11
Kettlethorpe	10	Willoughton	4

Total 285

SUMMARY

Houses completed	285
Houses under erection	28
Houses about to be commenced	6
Tenders to be invited	26
Balance of current programme (Stow and Willingham) ...	12
Future Programme	40

Total 397

(3)

COMPARISON.

AVERAGE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS IN LINDSEY

POSITION ON 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

	Average Achievement.	Achievement of Gainsborough R.D.C.
Council Houses completed	339	285
COUNCIL HOUSES COMPLETED PER 1,000 OF POPULATION	19.7	22.6
Council Houses under erection ...	59	28

EIGHT

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (1) Number of food premises (i.e., grocers, confectioners, butchers) 70
- Number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies, Regulations, 1949 2
- (2) Number of food premises registered under section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act:
- (i) Sale of Ice Cream 26
 - (ii) Manufacture or sale of preserved foods (including 11 fried-fish shops) 21
- (3) Number of inspections of registered food premises 52
- (4) Condemned food is buried in the Council's controlled refuse tips.
- (5) No case of food poisoning was notified during the year. This reflects very creditably regarding hygienic food handling. Shopkeepers co-operate very well and informal talks with them on the subject appear to be quite effective. Posters are displayed but the general public appear to take little notice of this method of publicity.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles	74
Scarlet Fever	12
Whooping Cough	28
Pneumonia	4
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	8

Totals 126

Particulars of diphtheria immunisations, vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out in the Gainsborough Rural District during 1953.

	Under five years of age at date of immunisation.	Between five and fourteen years of age at date of immunisation.	Boosting Doses.
Diphtheria Immunisations	125	35	112

	Under One	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over	Total
Vaccinations	52	4	—	3	59
Re-vaccinations	—	1	—	6	7

	Under One	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Whooping Cough Immunisations (under five years)	10	16	4	—	2	32

DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Pulm.	Tuberculosis Non-Pulm.
Biyborough	6	—	—	—	—	—
Blyton	5	1	2	2	1	—
Corringham	2	—	—	—	1	—
East Stockwith	—	—	—	—	1	—
Fenton	—	—	—	—	1	—
Glentworth	1	—	—	—	—	—
Grayingham	—	2	—	—	—	—
Harpwell	1	—	—	1	—	—
Hemswell	3	—	1	—	—	—
Hemswell R.A.F.	14	4	11	1	2	—
Kettlethorpe	—	—	1	—	—	—
Knaith	1	—	—	—	—	—
Marton	5	—	—	—	1	—
Morton	5	1	—	—	—	—
Northorpe	5	—	3	—	—	—
Scotter	2	—	1	—	—	—
Scotton	2	1	—	—	—	—
Sturton-by-Stow	1	3	9	—	—	—
Torksey	—	—	—	—	1	—
Willoughton	21	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	74	12	28	4	8	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	24	22	16	5	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	74
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	12
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	2	1	3	6	1	9	3	1	—	28
Pneumonia	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	8
Total	26	22	20	10	15	3	7	4	9	3	5	2	126

TUBERCULOSIS

Ages	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—5	—	1	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	2	—	—
25—45	1	—	—	—
45—65	1	1	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	4	—	—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
M.	F.	M.	F.
1	1	—	—
Total 2			

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948. PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Premises				
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	21	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	11	—	—
Total	59	40	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT. OUTWORK.

	Sections 110 and 111. Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	All other items
No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	3	Nil
No. of defaults, prosecutions, notices served (under all headings)	Nil	Nil

